CLAIMS

1. A method of treating or inhibiting cellular injury or inhibiting cell death following an ischemic event in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises providing an effective amount of a TNFα antagonist to said mammal.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the cellular injury or death results from myocardial infarction, myocardial ischemia, retinal ischemia, central retinal occlusion, peripheral arterial occlusion, transient ischemic attacks, ischemic stroke, ischemic arterial obstruction, frostbite, arterial thrombosis and occlusion, or crush injury.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the TNFα antagonist is a TNF receptor/immunoglobulin fusion protein.

4. The method according to claim 3, wherein the TNFα antagonist comprises a fragment of TNFR and a portion or the entire constant region of a human immunoglobulin heavy chain.

5. The method according to claim 4, wherein the TNFα antagonist is etanercept.

6. The method according to claim 4, wherein the TNFα antagonist is p55TNFR:Fc.

7. A method of treating or inhibiting reperfusion injury in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises providing an effective amount of a TNFα antagonist to said mammal.

8. The method according to claim 7, wherein the injury results from transplant surgery, angioplasty, coronary stent placement, thrombolytic therapy, heart valve replacement, or bypass surgery.

9. The method according to claim 7, wherein the TNFα antagonist is a TNF receptor/immunoglobulin fusion protein.

10. The method according to claim 9, wherein the TNFα antagonist comprises a fragment of TNFR and a portion or the entire constant region of a human immunoglobulin heavy chain.

11. The method according to claim 10, wherein the TNFα antagonist is etanercept.

12. The method according to claim 10, wherein the TNFα antagonist is p55TNFR:Fc.

13. A method of reducing mortality following a myocardial infarction in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises providing an effective amount of a TNFα antagonist to said mammal.

14. The method according to claim 13, wherein the TNFα antagonist is a TNF receptor/immunoglobulin fusion protein.

15. The method according to claim 14, wherein the TNFα antagonist comprises a fragment of TNFR and a portion or the entire constant region of a human immunoglobulin heavy chain.

16. The method according to claim 15, wherein the TNFα antagonist is etanercept.

17. The method according to claim 15, wherein the TNFα antagonist is p55TNFR:Fc.